

Message Text

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63

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ADP-00 HEW-08 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /083 W

----- 121490

R 182115Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6727

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 1203

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SWEL, PAHO, HA

SUBJECT: PAHO - ELECTION OF DIRECTOR

REF: STATE 139523

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED HORWITZ CANDIDACY WITH GOH FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDERSEC GOUSSE ON FEBRUARY 6 AND ON JULY 17. GOUSSE WAS UNINFORMED ON SUBJECT ON FIRST OCCASION, BUT AT LATER MEETING SEEMED FULLY AWARE OF FORTHCOMING ELECTION AND VENEZUELAN AND MEXICAN CANDIDACIES. AFTER COMMENTING ON PROS AND CONS OF OPPOSING HORWITZ'S RE-ELECTION IN FAVOR OF PRINCIPLE OF CHANGE IN PAHO LEADERSHIP, GOUSSE UNDERTOOK TO EXPLORE QUESTION WITH GOH PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY THEARD.

2. THAT SAME EVENING, JULY 17, AT SOCIAL FUNCTION GOUSSE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE HAD DETERMINED IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH SEC THEARD THAT LATTER WAS "PERSONALLY COMMITTED" TO REELECTION OF HORWITZ. GROSSE NONETHELESS PROMISED TO PURSUE THE MATTER WITH THEARD IN LIGHT OF USG INTEREST IN ROTATION OF DIRECTORSHIP AND WOULD FURTHER INFORM EMBASSY IN NEXT FEW DAYS. DEPARTMENT WILL BE INFORMED BY CABLE AS TO RESULTS OF ANY ADDITIONAL CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY.

3. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, GOH FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT EXPLICITLY DEFERS TO CONCERNED OPERATING
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DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT IN SPECIALIZED SUBSTANTIVE

QUESTIONS SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS.
A DIRECT APPROACH TO PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY IS ALWAYS
POSSIBLE, BUT EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT THIS WOULD BE MOST
PRODUCTIVE AT SOME LATER STAGE WHEN USG SUPPORT HAS BEEN
PLEDGED TO SPECIFIC CANDIDATE FOR PAHO DIRECTORSHIP.
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Disposition Reason:
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